Extradition of Hijackers

66. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:
SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:
SHRI ABANI ROY:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have evidence to prove Pakistan's hand in the hijacking of IC-814;

(b) whether the matter has been brought to the notice of Government of Pakistan; and

(c) whether Government of India has asked Pakistan to extradite hijackers; if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) Government have raised the matter of the hijacking of Indian Airline flight IC-814 with the Government of Pakistan and have provided it with evidence of the involvement of Pakistani nationals. Government have also informed Pakistan that there are grounds to believe that the hijackers are currently in Pakistan. Government have demanded that Pakistan fulfil its international obligations to take the hijackers into custody and to extradite them to India. The Government of Pakistan, in its response, has reiterated its general position that it would undertake to apprehend and prosecute any person or persons found on its territory or the territory of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir who may be suspected of having committed such offences related to hijacking. Simaltaneously, Pakistan has not accepted our demarche.